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THE
L I F E
O F

R Mackenzie
George Earl of Cromertie,

From the Time of his BIRTH to that of
his receiving Sentence of DEATH, and
His MAJESTY'S Most Gracious Respite
of that Sentence.



L O N D O N:

Printed for C. WHITEFIELD, in White-Fryers,
Fleet-Street. MDCCLVI.

THE
HISTORICAL

Geographical and Chronological

From the time of the
first settlement of the
country to the present
time. By J. G. Thompson.
The History of the
State of New York.



LONDON:

Printed by J. G. Thompson.



T H E
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O F

George Earl of Cromertie.



GEORGE M^cKENZIE,
Earl of *Cromertie*, Viscount *Tar-*
bat, Lord *M^cLoed* and *Castle-*
haven, Hereditary Sheriff of the
County of *Cromertie*, and Baro-
net of *Nova Scotia*, is of a Branch of the
Family of *Seaforth*, so that in tracing his
Descent, we must go back as far as the Ori-
ginal of that Family.

The Name of *M^cKenzie* is one of the
most antient, and among the most nume-
rous of the Clans of *Scotland*: They account
for their Name, and their Original, in the
following Manner: In the Year 1263, the

Danes and Norwegians, under the Command of *Acho*, King of *Norway*, made a Descent upon the West Coast of *Scotland*, with a great Fleet of Ships, and 20,000 Men: This Descent being rumoured abroad, several young Gentlemen, who wanted to push their Fortune, came over from *Ireland* to the Assistance of *Alexander* the Third of *Scotland*; amongst the rest *Collin Fitzgerald*, a younger Son of the Earl of *Kildare*, or *Desmond*, who brought along with him a few Voluntiers, and came Time enough to join King *Alexander* at the famous Battle of the *Largs*, when the *Scots* obtained a signal Victory over the *Norwegians* and *Danes*: Our young Adventurer *Collin*, shewed himself worthy of the high Blood of the *Fitzgeralds*, and gave such surprizing Proofs of his Valour and military Skill, that the King took particular Notice of him, and rewarded his high Merit, by bestowing upon him the Lands and Barony of *Kintail*, in the Shire of *Ross*; which appears from a Charter under the Great Seal of *Scotland*, dated at *Kincardin*, in *January* 1266. The *Scotch* King, by this Means, secured our Adventurer to himself, and by giving him an Interest in, made him look upon himself as a Native of the Country, where he was now to settle.

Collin married a Daughter of the House of *Argyll*, and by her had a Son named *Keneth*, who succeeded his Father in the Barony of *Kintail*: This *Keneth* was as remarkable for Prowess and Valour as his Father, and in these unsettled Times, had many and frequent Opportunities of giving Proofs of it: He soon acquired a large Share of military Reputation, the only Quality in Esteem in those Days, and having a very numerous Issue, his Children were distinguished by the Patronymic *M^rKeneths*, or the Sons or Children of *Keneth*, a Thing very common in that Country: From a Patronymic, they came to use it as a Surname, forgetting that of *Fitzgerald* entirely, and by Degrees *M^rKeneth* came, by Corruption, to be changed to the present Orthography *M^rKenzie*. They remained Barons of *Kintail* from this Time, till 1623, when they were created Earls of *Seaforth*, a Space of near four hundred Years.

Keneth, the second Baron of *Kintail*, was equally remarkable with his Father for Deeds of Arms; and what was extraordinary in a military Man, was very religiously disposed. He was a rigid Observer of all the Feasts and Fasts of the Church; moderate in all his Passions, which he endeavoured to keep still in greater Subjection, by the most severe religious Penance. He was charitable

to the Poor, but carried his Largenesses to the Priests and Begging Orders, to a Degree of Excess; he spent his Income, which was considerable in those Days, in Acts of Charity and Hospitality. When he died, he left all his personal Estate to the Church, dividing it amongst the several adjacent Monastries, and left a large Rent-Charge upon his real Estate, to be paid to the Monks of *I. Collum. Kill.* for saying a Number of Masses for the Repose of his Soul, and that of his Ancestors: This was the religious Foible of those Days, which the Priests found many Opportunities to improve to their Advantage; but later Ages have found out a Way to Heaven less expensive to themselves, and less destructive of their Patrimonial Estates.

He was Father of *Keneth*, the third Baron of *Kintail*, who happened to be at some publick Meeting with *Mackay*, Ancestor of the Lord *Rea*, where a Quarrel of small Significancy happened, yet was carried on with a great deal of Spleen and Rancour, by the Adherents of both Sides, for several Years. They had several Skirmishes, being both Chieftains, considerable for the Number of their Followers, which were determined sometimes in Favour of the one, and sometimes of the other; but it was the Misfortune of the Baron of *Kintail*, to lose his
Life,

Life, by a random Shot of an Arrow, in one of these Engagements, tho' his Men got the better of the *Mackays*.

To him succeeded *Murdoc*, the fourth Baron of *Kintail*, who endeavoured to revenge his Father's Death upon the *Mackays*; but both Parties finding themselves sensibly weakened by this unnatural Contention, they, by the Interposition of some neutral Friends, accommodated their Differences amicably; and to cement their Union, and take away all Colour of Animosity, a Match was concluded between *Murdoc*, the young Baron of *Kintail*, and a Daughter of *Mackays*, which had the desired Effect, and the two Families remained in perfect Peace and Union, to the great Joy of both their Clans and their Neighbours, who were much embarrassed by these intestine Feuds.

Murdoc died and left Issue, by the fore-mentioned Match, *Alexander*, a Youth of great Parts and distinguished Courage; he happily saw his Family freed from all private Quarrels, so that he had an Opportunity of exercising his great Talents in a more honourable Cause, than in deciding petty Disputes with his Neighbours; that was, in Defence of his King and Country.

The Kingdom was then engaged in a War with the *English*: The young Baron was emulous of Glory and military Reputation,

tation, and therefore soon repaired to the King's Standard, tho' it was not yet his Turn to be summoned; he carried with him several of the young Men of his Clan, who were fired with the same Desire of Fame, which actuated their young Chief. He had married into a potent Family, a Daughter of *Mac-Dougald*, of *Lorn*, who, on this Occasion made several of his best Men join his Son-in-Law, that he might appear at Court with the greater Lustre. Our young Warrior was very well received by King *James IV*, but unhappily for him, his Thirst of Glory only hastened his End, and all the Advantage he reaped by it, was to be buried with the Flower of the *Scotch* Nation in that fatal Field of *Flodden*, where *James IV*, and most of the Nobility lost their Lives.

To him succeeded *Keneth*, of whom Records make no farther mention, but that he married a Daughter of *Hugh Lord Lovat*; a Match very natural and political, since in those Days it was as natural for Chiefs of Clans to make Alliances with such of their Neighbours as could assist them with Men, as it is now for Kingdoms to value Alliances in Proportion to the Power and Strength of the Kingdom allied. He left Issue four Sons and a Daughter.

John the Eldest succeeded, who applied himself early to Business, and endeavoured to cultivate in himself, rather the Arts of Peace than those of War; he was esteemed the most judicious Man in this Part of the Country; and was generally the Arbitrator of all the Differences that happened in it, which he composed, for the most Part, to the Satisfaction of all Parties concerned. He grew exceeding popular in his Country; and upon his Arrival at the Court of King *James V*, that Monarch soon took Notice of his Ability, promoted him to several Places of Trust as well as Profit, and finding his Fidelity equal to his Capacity, he admitted him into his Privy Council. He preserved his Character and Reputation untainted till his Death, and was succeeded in his Barony of *Kintail*, by his Son *Keneth*.

Keneth, by no means answered the Pains his Father had taken with him, to form him for great Things; nor the Expectation the World might conceive of the Son of such a Father. He had none of those shining Abilities which had raised his Successor to the Rank of a Statesman; and the best that could be said of him, was, that he was not remarkably vicious. However, he married honourably, and according to the Dignity of his Birth, *Elizabeth*, Daughter of *John*,
Earl

of *Atbol*, a Branch of the House of *Stewart*, which bore that Title, and by her had Issue several Sons.

Collin, the Eldest, succeeded to the Barony of *Kintail*, at a very troublesome Period of Time, when the Kingdom was rent and divided by intestine Broils, in the Beginning of the unhappy Reign of *Queen Mary*; and was numbered among the few Loyalists who followed the Fortune of that distressed Princess, as long as there was any Room for rational Hope of doing her any Service. He commanded a Part of her Army at that fatal Battle fought near *Hamilton*; and gave signal Proofs of his personal Valour as well as Conduct. Upon her Majesty's Flight into *England*, he was amongst the last of her Friends, who submitted to the Regency appointed during the Minority of her Son, King *James VI.*

Notwithstanding he had been a zealous Stickler for the Queen-Mother, against the Partizans of the young King; yet he knew so well how to accommodate himself to the Exigence of the Times, that he so soon wrought himself into the Confidence of the young Monarch, that he declared him one of his Privy-Council, and held him in general Esteem all his Life-Time; tho' he used more Freedom with his Majesty than any other of the Courtiers, in upbraiding

him for his Indolence in the Defence of his Mother against the Tyranny of Queen *Elizabeth*.

He married *Barbara*, Daughter of *John Grant*, of *Grant*, Chief of the Name of *Grant*, and Ancestor of the present Sir *James Grant*, of *Grant*; by her he had Issue one Daughter, named *Margaret*, who married *Simon Lord Lovat*, and three Sons *Keneth*, *Roderick*, and *Collin*.

Keneth, the Eldest, succeeded his Father, and was for the first Time created a Baron in Parliament, by the Name and Title of Baron of *Kintail*. His Grandson was afterwards created Earl *Seaforth*, which Title that noble Family enjoy'd untainted, till, by the Folly of the last Earl, the Honours were forfeited for his Appearance in the Rebellion in the Year 1715. But we have no farther Occasion to pursue the Lineage of this Family, since *Roderick*, the second Brother of this first Lord *Kintail*, was Ancestor to the Earl of *Cromertie*, whose Genealogy we are now tracing.

Roderick was a Gentleman of distinguished Merit, and recommended himself to King *James VI.* by whom he was Knighted. Tho' he was no Friend to the Encroachments that Monarch endeavoured to make upon the People, by claiming more Prerogative than was consistent with the Nature of the

Crown of *Scotland*, he constantly opposed in Parliament all Acts that tended to enlarge the Power of the Crown; tho' his Opposition, and that of the few who joined him, had little or no Effect, the *English* Treasury which King *James* lavished away among his greedy Courtiers, still procured him a Majority in the Senate; *English* Money proving always too prevalent against the strongest Efforts of Reason or Justice; which were all the Friends of Liberty had, to oppose to the Designs of a Ministry, who had determined to put a Price upon every Thing. *Roderick* soon found that his Zeal for his Country was of no Signification, could bring Her or Liberty no Relief, but only exposed his own Person to the Malice and Resentment of a worthless Set of Courtiers: He therefore wisely withdrew from Court, and retired to the Country; where he married *Margaret*, Daughter and sole Heiress to *Torquil M'Leod*, of the *Lewes*, by which Match, besides having a considerable Fortune with her, he added to his Arms, in Right of his Wife, *Or, a Mountain in Flame Proper*; which the Earl of *Cromertie* wears to this Day. He died in 1625, leaving Issue, four Sons and one Daughter.

John, the Eldest, succeeded to his Father's Virtues, as well as his Estate, had a large Share of natural Parts, as well as of acquired Learning;

Learning; he excelled in the polite Arts, and was accounted one of the most accomplished Gentlemen of his Age: He was a zealous Friend to Liberty, and of unshaken Loyalty to his Sovereign *Charles I*, by whom he was created a Baronet of *Nova Scotia*. The Times he lived in were full of Trouble and Dangers, and required the utmost Skill to reconcile his Loyalty to the Prince, and his Duty to his Country; yet he happily found out the Golden Mean, to preserve both, amidst all the Hurry and Confusion of the Times, without making Shipwreck of either. He attached himself to his Majesty, as long as his Measures were just, and his Views were bounded by the established Laws of the Land, and the Freedom of the Constitution, but left him, and as zealously served the Parliament, when his Majesty seemed inclinable to make any Encroachments upon either. He distinguished between a Love of Liberty and Faction; between Freedom and Licentiousness; between Loyalty, founded upon Principles consistent with the Nature of Government, and a slavish Subjection to the arbitrary Dictates of the Sovereign Will.

Thus pursuing no Scheme but the Honour of his Prince, and the Liberty of his Country, he lived at Peace in the Midst of Confusion, and found himself carested by all

Parties, loved by honest Men, and feared by Knaves. He married *Margaret*, Daughter and one of the Coheiresses of *George Erskine*, of *Innervall*, Brother to *Thomas* Earl of *Kelly*; by whom he left two Sons. *Roderick*, the Youngest, took himself to the Study of the Law, in which he became eminent, and was promoted to the Dignity of one of the Senators of the College of Justice. He married *Margaret*, Daughter of *Alexander Burnet*, Archbishop of *St. Andrew*, by whom he had *Alexander* Lord *Lovat*.

Sir John had likewise five Daughters, one of whom was married to *Hugh* Lord *Lovat*, and another to *Keneth* Earl of *Seaforth*.

George, his Eldest Son succeeded him in his Estate and Honours; as also in his unshaken Loyalty and Fidelity to his exiled Sovereign King *Charles II.* He never could be persuaded to submit to the Usurper, but on all Occasions opposed his Measures, and gave him abundance of Trouble in the North, where his Interest and that of his Family lay: He kept up, notwithstanding all the Caution *Cromwell* could put in Practice, a constant and close Correspondence with the Royal Exile, during the whole Time of the Usurpation. From him he had a Commission to levy what Forces he could for his Majesty's Service and Restoration: Tho' he had

had no Occasion to raise Forces to bring about that Affair, yet when that Event was completed, and his Majesty safely settled upon the Throne of his Ancestors, he was amply rewarded for his Loyalty and Zeal; a good Fortune, which was not the Fate of many noble Families, who suffered for their Loyalty, as well as expressed their Zeal: But Sir George was so happy as to please; being a Man of Wit, Humour, and Learning, which hit the Taste of this merry Monarch, and perhaps contributed as much to Sir George's Advancement, if not more, than all his Services, which were confessedly great: He was, immediately upon the Restoration, made one of the Senators of the College of Justice; and because the Revenue of that Place was not sufficient to support his Dignity, or reward his Merit, he was put into an Office, which seemed a Title incompatible, *viz.* that of Clerk Register: This was a kind of Plurality in Law Livings, as little justifiable as those of the Church, but few that are possessed of either, think them a Sin, or if they do, the Salary proves a sovereign Styptic for the Wound which that makes in their Conscience. He was admitted one of the Privy-Council; and that he might have as many of the Offices of the Law as possible, he was shortly after made Lord Justice-General of the whole Kingdom,

an Office which had been hereditary in the Family of *Argyll*, till the Marquess of that Title made a Surrender of it in the preceding Reign. These Offices he enjoy'd during all that Reign, and the next, when, to all his other Honours, was added that of being created a Viscount and Baron by King *James VII.*

Such a Number of Places, and such an Inundation of Honours, heaped upon one Man, made many believe that they were obtained by Concessions, not very favourable to Sir *George's* Character, as a real Lover of his Country. It is certain Sir *George* followed the Court in all their Measures, and stuck at nothing that would promote the Schemes which they had in View, which happened not at all Times to be the most popular: Whether Sir *George's* Compliance with these Measures, flowed from a Conviction (tho' erroneous) of their Justice and public Utility, or from the Force and Influence of the many Places he enjoyed, I leave every Man to judge according to his Degree of Charity.

When the Oppression of *James VII.* banished him from the Kingdoms, Sir *George* did not think of following his Fortune, but wisely changed with the Times, and was as zealous a Defender of the Revolution as any Man: He made himself necessary to the Revolution-Ministry, and had the Address

dress to preserve his Post of Justice-General, amidst all their Changes.

In Queen *Anne's* Time he was admitted of the Privy-Council, and for some Time was Secretary of State, and allowed still to continue Justice-General; but whether he was not compliable enough in his Office of Secretary of State, or that the Party had served their Turn, he was turned out after the finishing a certain memorable and important Affair.

This was the first Earl of *Cromertie*, who died in the 89th Year of his Age, leaving Issue three Sons, *John*, the eldest, succeeded, who married *Anne Murray*, Daughter to the Lord *Elibank*, by whom he left Issue

George, the present Earl, whose Principles, till the late unhappy Rebellion, were never suspected to lean in the least towards *Jacobitism*; but, on the contrary, from his Infancy, he was educated in those of the established Church of *Scotland*, to which he always adhered till his late Misfortune; insomuch that he has, upon several Occasions, received the Thanks of the General Assembly of that Church for the substantial Proofs he gave, from Time to Time, of his sincere Attachment to their Interest. And soon after the breaking out of the Rebellion, we are told, that when his Majesty's Troops, under the Command of Sir

John Cope, arrived at *Inverness*, in the End of *August* 1745, the Earl immediately waited upon him, and, agreeable to his Principles and Inclinations, as well as his Duty, made a Tender of all his Power and Influence in suppressing the Rebellion, but such Assistance was not then judged necessary.

After the Action of *Preston-Pans*, when Commissions were issued for raising Independent Companies, under the Direction of *Mr. Forbes*, President of the Court of Session in *Scotland*, Application was made for a Company for his Son, the Lord *M^r Leod*; and as he had Reason to hope with Success, he directed the Gentlemen, whom he intended for Subalterns in the Company, to levy the Men, and the Levies went on accordingly; and the Earl's Zeal for the present Government, as his Friends say, continued unshaken until this Period: And for the Truth of this my Lord appeals to Sir *John Cope*, *Mr. Forbes*, and to the Attestations of eight *Presbyterian* Ministers, in the Hands of his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

But when it was known that the Subalterns in Lord *M^r Leod's* Company were to be named by the Lord *Portrose*, and the Subalterns that the Earl had in View were disappointed, he was immediately beset by designing Men, and they used all their Art and Cunning upon him, to seduce him from
his

his Duty; but no Reason, his Friends say, whatsoever could have had this Effect, if he had not been intoxicated with Liquor, and he no sooner recovered his Understanding, but he reflected with Horror upon what he had done; and my Lord for this appealed to Mr. *Brodie*, Lord *Lyon's* Declaration, in the Hands also of the Duke of *Newcastle*, and to the Knowledge of the other Members of both Houses of Parliament in his Neighbourhood.

Soon after my Lord engaged in the Rebellion, he went to *Perth*, and continued there a Month in a private Capacity. He did indeed afterwards accept of a Command to levy the Cess, Excise, and other Contributions in the Shires of *Fife* and *Kinross*, to the Amount of 13000 *L.* but he preserved such Discipline among the Soldiers under his Command, that tho' he intimated his Orders upon Pain of military Execution, agreeable to the Terms in which they were delivered to him, yet he avoided all Methods of enforcing them, and returned without levying any Thing.

Upon his Return from this Command, he went, attended only by his own Domesticks, to a Gentleman's House, where he resided for some Time in a private Way, without Command or Commission, and without taking upon him any Concern but a Continuance

tinuance of good Offices for the Ease and Protection of his Majesty's Subjects.

His Lordship, it is said, and many more in the Rebel Army were equally disgusted at the Preference given *Sullivan*, and some joined in a Remonstrance to have him removed; which had no Effect, but to distract their Councils, since the young Pretender knew the Value of the Man too well to part with him, on the Pique and Caprice of a few: They were in this Distraction, when Preparations were made for an Engagement, to which they were brought sooner than they imagined. But the Earl was not in it, he and his Son, the Lord *M'Leod* being gone upon a Party into the Shire of *Ross*, and, it is said, intended not to have joined the Rebels any more, but to have taken the first Opportunity to leave them.

The Fate of the Battle of *Culloden* made it needless for his Lordship to return, however he might be inclined; and therefore he was said to be preparing to set out for *France*, when he was surrounded by the Earl of *Sutherland's* Men, and taken in the following Manner.

A Man sent in Disguise on the 12th of *April*, 1746, by *Robert Macallister*, who commanded Lord *Sutherland's* Militia, for Intelligence, returned on the 14th at Night

to *Kilfiderbeg*, where *Robert Gray*, Lord *Sutherland's* Factor, Captain of another Company, lay, and told the said *Robert Gray*, and Lieutenant *John Mackay*, of Captain *George Mackay's* Independent Company (who joined Captain *Gray* on the 12th with 400 Men) the Situation of the Rebels, on which they proposed to attack them the next Morning, and immediately sent an Express to Messieurs *Sutherland* and *Macallister*, to acquaint them with their Resolution, which they approved of; and Mr. *Macallister* came to them early next Morning with his Company, when they concerted, that Capt. *Macallister*, with his Company, should, by the Burn of *Golfspry*, attack the Rebels in Rear, while the two Companies, commanded by Messieurs *Gray* and *Sutherland*, should, from a Hill to the North-West of *Golfspry*, attack them in Flank. Mr. *Macallister* marched with his Company towards the Burn of *Golfspry*; and having in his March received Intelligence that Lord *Cromertie's* Regiment had marched towards the Ferry, but Lord *Cromertie* himself, with most of his Officers, were still at *Dunrobin*, Ensign *John Mackay* with 26 Men were sent to intercept them, and before the Ensign came up, some of the private Men, by firing briskly from the Kirk-yard of *Golfspry* on Lord *Cromertie*

Cromertie and his Officers, drove them back to the House of *Dunrobin*.

The Regiment understanding that Lord *Cromertie* was attacked, began to march back to their Relief, and thereupon *John Mackay*, with his small Party, retired to the adjacent high Grounds. Mean time Messieurs *Gray* and *Sutherland* coming to the Hill of *Culmaly*, to the North-west of *Golfpry*, in Terms of the Concert, and observing the Rebels returning from the Ferry, and drawing up in Order of Battle a Mile by West of *Golfpry*, on a rising Ground, they concealed their Men on the Top of a Hill, and went themselves with the said Lieutenant *Mackay*, of Capt. *Patrick Sutherland's* Independent Company (who had also joined that Morning, but had no Men) down the Hill, the better to observe the Enemy's Numbers and Situation, whom they computed to be betwixt 4 and 500, and resolved to attack them where they had drawn up. Mr. *Sutherland* returned up the Hill where his Men were, and he and Lieutenant *Patrick Gray*, of Capt. *Gray's* Company, after telling them they were to engage the Enemy, desired they might keep a good Distance betwixt their Ranks, in their March down the Hill, so as to deceive the Enemy with respect to their Numbers, and kept nigh twenty Paces betwixt each Rank, which so deceived them, that

that they took *Sutherland's* Men (which were not full 200) to be 1400, as they afterwards learned. They were struck with a Pannick, and retreated towards the Ferry, and were pursued by the said two Companies, who, coming in upon their Flank, soon routed them, killed a considerable Number, and took 178 private Men Prisoners, with whom they marched to *Dunrobin*, whence Mr. *Sutherland* and Company went as Guards with the private Men to the Highlands. Lord *Cromertie* held out the House of *Dunrobin* till the Evening, and then, despairing of Relief, Messieurs *Gray* and *Macallister* were, at his own Desire, admitted into the House of *Dunrobin*, to commune with him about surrendering; and Ensign *John Mackay* having got in with them, went down Stairs while they were communing, and told a few Men, that were in Arms within the Close, that Lord *Cromertie*, &c. had surrendered; upon which they delivered their Arms a few Minutes sooner than they would otherwise have done; he opened the Gates, and allowed the Militia to enter, who immediately disarmed Lord *Cromertie* and the other Officers. Mr. *Gray* immediately dispatched one *William Monro*, Wright at *Golspry*, to the Man of War at *Cromertie*, and next Day the Hawk Man of War came before *Dunrobin*, and all the private Men
and

and Officers were shipped on board her and the Hound Man of War, Capt. *Dove*, who came there after.

The Earl of *Cromertie* being sent to *London*, and committed Prisoner to the Tower, was tried and condemned, by his Peers, with the two Lords before mentioned; but before Sentence of Death was passed upon him, he made the following Speech at the Bar.

MY LORDS,

“ I HAVE now the Misfortune to ap-
 “ pear before your Lordships, guilty of
 “ an Offence of such a Nature as justly
 “ merits the highest Indignation of his Ma-
 “ jesty, your Lordships, and the Publick:
 “ And it was from a Conviction of my
 “ Guilt, that I did not presume to trouble
 “ your Lordships with any Defence. As
 “ I have committed Treason, it is the last
 “ thing I would attempt to justify. My only
 “ Plea shall be your Lordships Compassion,
 “ my only Refuge is his Majesty’s Clemency.
 “ Under this heavy Load of Affliction
 “ I have still the Satisfaction, my Lords, of
 “ hoping that my past Conduct before the
 “ breaking out of the Rebellion was irre-
 “ proachable, as to my Attachment to the
 “ present happy Establishment both in
 “ Church and State. And in Evidence of
 “ my

“ my Affection to the Government, upon
 “ the breaking out of the Rebellion, I appeal
 “ to the then Commander in Chief of his
 “ Majesty’s Forces at *Inverness*, and to the
 “ Lord President of the Court of Session
 “ in *Scotland*, who I am sure will do Justice
 “ to my Conduct upon that Occasion. But,
 “ my Lords, notwithstanding my deter-
 “ mined Resolution in Favour of the Go-
 “ vernment, I was unhappily seduced from
 “ that Loyalty, in an unguarded Moment,
 “ by the Arts of desperate and designing
 “ Men. And it is notorious, my Lords,
 “ that no sooner did I awake from that De-
 “ lusion, than I felt a Remorse for my De-
 “ parture from my Duty, but it was then
 “ too late.

“ Nothing, my Lords, remains but to
 “ throw myself, my Life and Fortune upon
 “ your Lordships Compassion; but of these,
 “ my Lords, as to myself is the least Part
 “ of my Sufferings, I have involved an af-
 “ fectionate Wife, with an unborn Infant,
 “ as Parties of my Guilt, to share its Pe-
 “ nalties; I have involved my Eldest Son,
 “ whose Infancy and Regard to his Parents,
 “ hurried him down the Stream of Re-
 “ bellion; I have involved also eight inno-
 “ cent Children, who must feel their Pa-
 “ rent’s Punishment before they know his
 “ Guilt. Let them, my Lords, be Pledges
 “ to

“ to his Majesty ; let them be Pledges to
 “ your Lordships ; let them be Pledges to
 “ my Country for Mercy ; let the silent Elo-
 “ quence of their Grief and Tears, let the
 “ powerful Language of innocent Nature
 “ supply my Want of Eloquence and Per-
 “ suasion ; let me enjoy Mercy but no lon-
 “ ger than I deserve it ; and let me no
 “ longer enjoy Life than I shall use it to de-
 “ face the Crime I have been guilty of.
 “ Whilst I thus intercede to his Majesty
 “ through the Mediation of your Lordships
 “ for Mercy, let my Remorse for my Guilt
 “ as a Subject ; let the Sorrow of my Heart
 “ as a Husband ; let the Anguish of my
 “ Mind as a Father, speak the rest of my
 “ Misery. As your Lordships are Men, feel
 “ as Men, but may none of you ever suffer
 “ the smallest Part of my Anguish.

“ But if, after all, my Lords, my Safety
 “ shall be found inconsistent with that of
 “ the Public, and nothing but my Blood
 “ can atone for my unhappy Crime ; if the
 “ Sacrifice of my Life, my Fortune and
 “ Family, is judged indispensably necessary
 “ for stopping the loud Demands of public
 “ Justice ; and if the bitter Cup is not to
 “ pass from me ; *not mine, but thy Will,*
 “ *O God, be done.*”

This Speech was delivered on *Wednesday, July 30, 1746*, and on *Friday* following, (*August 1.*) my Lord received Judgment, which his Majesty has been since graciously pleased to respite, and we are told his Lordship will be sent to the Island of *Guernsey* to be kept Prisoner in the Castle there during his Majesty's Pleasure.

The Earl of *Cromertie's* private Character is very amiable; he is esteemed a polite Nobleman, and remarkably mild in his Disposition, and affable in his Temper and Behaviour, and has little or nothing of that austere Pride and Haughtiness, so peculiar to most *Highland* Chiefe. His Neighbours of inferior Rank found him a steady Friend, and the Poor a kind and generous Benefactor: His Children found in him an indulgent Father, and his Lady a tender and affectionate Husband.

His Lady is a Daughter of the late *Sir William Gordon*, and Sister of the present *Sir John Gordon*, of *Dallfolly*, Member of Parliament for the Shire of *Ross*; a Lady every Way qualified to make a Man happy: She is in her Person extremely agreeable, has a large Share of ready Wit, and a solid penetrating Judgment, to a Degree seldom to be met with in her Sex, and she has a Spirit and Constancy of Mind, few of them come up to, which the Part she has acted since

her Lord's Confinement sufficiently testifies ; for though she is big with Child, yet she has borne the Shock of her Misfortunes with a becoming Dignity, without betraying Insensibility, or yielding too much to any effeminate Marks of Grief : She has Nine Children alive, and the Tenth she is now pregnant of.

It may not be improper here to observe, with Mr. *Foster*, that tho' two of these Lords lived in the public Profession of the Church of *Scotland*, that it would be unjust to infer from thence, that the Principles of that Church encourage, or have the least Tendency to Sedition. The contrary is abundantly evident, both from her Doctrine and Practice ; and especially from the loyal and steady Behaviour of her Ministers and private Members, during the whole Course of the late impious Rebellion. And the Presbyterians in *Scotland* are cleared, beyond all Contradiction, from this scandalous and base Imputation, by the honourable Testimony which his Royal Highness the Duke of *Cumberland* was pleased to give of their inviolable Zeal for the King's Person and Government, and Duty to their Country, in his Letter to the General Assembly, directed to the Earl of *Leven*, as his Majesty's High Commissioner. It is well known that the *Jacobites*, almost universally, are Dissenters from

from the Establishment: They are a Stain and Dishonour both to the *English* and *Scots* Churches, and their Principles disavowed by both. And indeed the Crime of so unprovoked and lawless Rebellion is branded as an Object of Detestation and Infamy by the public Doctrine of all Protestant Communions.

We may subjoin another Remark of a different Kind, and that is, that we can in no case, from the mere Boldness and Intrepidity of the Sufferer, infer the Goodness of his Principles: For we may even suppose a Man who has acted a Part in all the barbarous and diabolical Cruelties of the Inquisition, to be supported in the Hour of Death quite above Fear, and even to a Degree of Exultation, by a Reflection on his ardent Zeal for the Suppression of Heresy, and for the Honour of God, tho' exerted in such Instances, as the God of Mercy must necessarily abhor. The *Presumptions* of *Entbusiasm* are always more forward and assuming than the *Confidence* inspired by rational Religion. Hence it sprang, that within the Compass of a few Years after *Mahomet's* Death, his Successors, with an inconsiderable Force, over-ran the whole *Grecian* Empire. They courted, instead of dreading, Death, under the Delusion of dying *Martyrs* for Religion, tho' in Truth for a false

and bloody Superstition. Nothing can be more repugnant to common Reason, nor a grosser Reflection on the Wisdom and Justice of the Supreme Being, than to suppose, that he intended the greatest Part of his reasonable Creatures for *Slaves*; and has established the *lineal hereditary indefeasible* Right of *Tyrants*, to harass and oppress Mankind. Even *Transubstantiation* itself cannot, in my Opinion, be esteemed a Doctrine more absurd or impious.



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